



DRAFT DECISION

**SUBMISSION OF THE 2020 OPCW FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
TO THE EXTERNAL AUDITOR**

The Conference of the States Parties,

Recalling that Financial Rule 11.1.02 states that the Financial Statements shall, after approval by the Director-General, be submitted to the External Auditor not later than three months following the end of the financial year, together with such statements as may be required;

Considering the Note by the Director-General entitled “Submission of the 2020 OPCW Financial Statements to the External Auditor” (EC-95/DG.22, dated 25 September 2020), in which an exceptional suspension of Financial Rule 11.1.02 is requested;

Cognisant of the Note by the Director-General entitled “Report on the Status of Implementation of the Enterprise Resource Planning System” (EC-95/DG.23, dated 25 September 2020), which notes that the cutover to the System of Record is planned to take place in December 2020;

Noting the report of the Advisory Body on Administrative and Financial Matters (ABAF) at its Forty-Ninth Session (ABAF-49/1, dated 31 July 2020), in which the ABAF agreed with the Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”) that an exceptional request for an extension of the submission date for the Financial Statements to the External Auditor would be submitted by the Secretariat to the Executive Council (hereinafter “the Council”) and to the Conference of the States Parties (hereinafter “the Conference”); and

Noting also the decision of the Council at its Ninety-Fifth Session (EC-95/DEC.1, dated 7 October 2020) recommending that the Conference at its Twenty-Fifth Session suspend, on an exceptional basis, the application of Financial Rule 11.1.02 in respect of the timeline for submission of the 2020 Financial Statements to the External Auditor;

Hereby:

Decides to suspend, on an exceptional basis, the application of Financial Rule 11.1.02 in respect of the timeline for submission of the 2020 Financial Statements to the External Auditor.

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